AMENDENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-18 (canceled).

Claim 19. (previously presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

a receiver configured to receive image data from a transmitting facsimile apparatus via a public switched phone network; and

a controller configured to:

convert the received image data to data for Internet transmission;

attach the converted data to an e-mail; and

transmit the e-mail to a management center, the management center configured to manage information that the image communication apparatus receives and further configured to connect to the image communication apparatus via the Internet,

the controller being further configured to:

determine whether a transmission destination is the management center based, on a received error mail, the received error mail indicating that the transmitting e-mail did not reach the transmission destination;

print the received error mail when the transmission destination is the management center; and

print a predetermined part of the received error mail when the transmission destination is not the management center.

Claim 20. (currently amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

a scanner configured to scan image data;

a panel configured to input an address of a ~~destination~~ recipient; ~~and~~

a memory configured to store an e-mail address of a management center; and

a controller configured to:

convert the scanned image data into data for Internet transmission;

attach the converted data to an e-mail; and

independently transmit the e-mail to each of the ~~destination~~ address of the recipient input by the panel and ~~a~~ the e-mail address of the management center, the management center managing information that the image communication apparatus transmits to the ~~destination~~ address of the recipient input by the panel, and being further connected to the image communication apparatus via the Internet, the management center being distinct from the ~~destination~~ recipient of the address input by the panel, the e-mail address of the management center being independent of the recipient of the address input by the panel, the e-mail being transmitted to the management center based on the e-mail address stored in the memory.

Claim 21. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the management center stores information that

the image communication apparatus transmits to the destination, the information being browsed by a supervisor of the management center.

Claim 22. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the controller sets a mail address of a transmission destination in a "To" field of the e-mail and sets a mail address of the management center in a "Bcc" field of the e-mail.

Claim 23. (previously presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

a scanner configured to scan image data;

a panel configured to input an address of a destination; and

a controller configured to:

convert the received image data to data for Internet transmission;

attach the converted data to an e-mail; and

transmit the e-mail to the destination and to a management center, the management center configured to manage information that the image communication apparatus transmits to the destination, and further configured to connect to the image communication apparatus via the Internet,

the controller being further configured to:

determine whether a transmission destination is the management center based on a received error mail, the received error mail indicating that the transmitting e-mail did not reach the transmission destination;

print the received error mail when the transmission destination is the management center; and

print a predetermined part of the received error mail when the transmission destination is not the management center.

Claim 24. (currently amended) An image communication apparatus comprising:

a facsimile transmitter configured to transmit image data to a ~~destination~~ recipient based on a facsimile protocol; ~~and~~

a memory configured to store the image data to be transmitted by the facsimile transmitter; and

an e-mail transmitter configured to:

convert the stored image data ~~transmitted by the facsimile transmitter~~ into data for Internet transmission;

attach the converted data to an e-mail; and

transmit the e-mail to a management center, the management center managing the e-mail transmitted by the e-mail transmitter ~~image data that is transmitted by the facsimile transmitter~~, and being further connected to the image communication apparatus via the Internet, the transmitted e-mail corresponding to the image data transmitted by the facsimile transmitter, the management center being independent of the recipient to which the image data is transmitted by the facsimile transmitter based on the facsimile protocol.

Claim 25. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the management center stores image data that is transmitted by the facsimile transmitter, the image data being browsed by a supervisor of the management center.

Claim 26. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the e-mail transmitter sets an e-mail address of the management center in a "To" field of the e-mail.

Claim 27. (previously presented) An image communication apparatus comprising:

a facsimile transmitter configured to transmit image data to a destination based on a facsimile protocol;

an e-mail transmitter configured to:

convert the image data to data for Internet transmission;

attach the converted data to an e-mail; and

transmit the e-mail to a management center, the management center configured to manage image data that is transmitted by the facsimile transmitter, and further configured to connect to the image communication apparatus via the Internet; and

a controller configured to:

determine whether the transmission destination is the management center, based on a received error mail, the received error mail indicating that the transmitting e-mail did not reach a transmission destination;

print the received error mail when the transmission destination is the management center; and

print a predetermined part of the received error mail when the transmission destination is not the management center.

Claim 28. (canceled).

Claim 29. (canceled).

Claim 30. (currently amended) An image communication method comprising:

scanning image data;

inputting an address of a ~~destination~~ recipient;

storing an e-mail address of a management center;

converting the scanned image data into data for Internet transmission;

attaching the converted data to an e-mail; and

independently transmitting the e-mail to each of ~~the input destination~~ the input address of the recipient via the Internet and ~~a~~ the stored e-mail address of the management center via the Internet, the management center managing information transmitted to ~~the input destination~~ the input address of the recipient, the management center being distinct from ~~the input destination~~ the recipient of the input address, the e-mail address of the management center being independent of the recipient of the input address, the e-mail being transmitted to the management center based on the stored e-mail address.

Claim 31. (previously presented) The image communication method according to claim 30, wherein the management center stores information that is transmitted to the destination, the information being browsed by a supervisor of the management center.

Claim 32. (previously presented) The image communication method according to claim 30, wherein a mail address of a transmission destination is set

in a "To" field of the e-mail, and a mail address of the management center is set in a "Bcc" field of the e-mail.

Claim 33. (currently amended) An image communication method comprising:

facsimile transmitting image data to ~~a destination~~ a recipient based on a facsimile protocol;

storing the image data to be facsimile transmitted;

converting the stored ~~same~~ image data ~~as the image data transmitted based on the facsimile protocol~~ into data for Internet transmission;

attaching the converted data to an e-mail; and

e-mail transmitting the e-mail to a management center via the Internet, the management center managing the e-mail transmitted e-mail ~~image data that is facsimile transmitted~~, the e-mail transmitted e-mail corresponding to the facsimile transmitted image data, the management center being independent of the recipient to which the image data is facsimile transmitted based on the facsimile protocol.

Claim 34. (previously presented) The image communication method according to claim 33, wherein the management center stores image data that is facsimile transmitted, the image data being browsed by a supervisor of the management center.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The image communication apparatus according to claim 33, wherein an e-mail address of the management center is set in a "To" field of the e-mail.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY

Applicant wishes to express appreciation to Examiner Park for the telephone discussions of August 18, 2005. During the discussion, Applicant's Representative, Attorney William Boshnick, spoke to the Examiner concerning the rejected claims of the present invention. Specifically, with respect to rejected independent claims 20, 24, 30 and 33, Applicant's Representative read a proposed clarifying amendment to independent claim 20 (to which independent method claim 30 generally corresponds) and to independent claim 24 (to which independent method claim 33 generally corresponds), to clarify the independence of the management center from the recipient.

Specifically, with respect to independent claim 20, Applicant's proposed amendment included, *inter alia*, the limitation that ---the email address of the management center being independent of the recipient to which the image data is transmitted by the facsimile transmitter based on the facsimile protocol---. With respect to independent claim 24, Applicant's proposed amendment included, *inter alia*, the limitation that ---the management center being independent of the recipient to which the image data is transmitted by the facsimile transmitter based on the facsimile protocol.---

Applicant's Representative noted that, to the contrary, the apparatus of the applied OTSUKA reference transmits an e-mail (containing image data) to the addressee stored in the EEPROM 14, and transmits the image data to *the same addressee* stored in this EEPROM 14. Applicant's Representative noted that therefore, as shown in Fig. 7, these two transmissions are performed

dependently and not independently, given the correspondence relationship between the email address and facsimile number of the user.

Later that day, after further considering the OTSUKA reference in view of the proposed claim amendments, the Examiner called back Applicant's Representative and noted that such an amendment would appear to overcome OTSUKA, but indicated that a further search may be required, before agreeing to allow the present application.

Applicant greatly appreciates the Examiner's consideration in this regard, and notes that the present amendments to claims 20, 24, 30 and 33 are substantially the same as those discussed with the Examiner.